



DISPERSING OUR MONEY AND MEN OVER THE WORLD IS UNSOUND, DANGEROUS POLICY

New York American.

Like Col. Roosevelt, we are getting tired of so much oratory. It is about time the heroics were put away in a box.

We shall not win this war with parades, banquets, after dinner speeches and all that spectacular stuff.

The allies are over here after four things—money, food, ships and men—all of which can be summed up in the one word, money, because that buys the other three.

In spite of silly persons, who think that hysteria, bombast and other childish manifestations are patriotism, and who think that common sense and truthfulness are treacherous and traitorous, we shall continue to use common sense and to tell the truth.

Our part in this war, for months to come, is to pay the bill—6 finance and to feed hungry and bankrupt England, hungry and bankrupt France, hungry and bankrupt Italy.

That is precisely what the British, French and Italian commissions say they expect us to do—to provide them with money, ships and food. And, as far as we can do this without ruining ourselves, we should do so.

But most certainly we must not lose sight of our own interests or save others from bankruptcy by irretrievably bankrupting ourselves.

There is a long future ahead of us. No man can say when we may be called upon to meet the cost of another great war. No man can say what coalition we may or may not have to fight. It might be Japan, Mexico and South America. It might be Germany, Japan and Russia. It might be England, Japan and Mexico.

No man who knows the history of nations is deceived by, or gives much credence to, professions of national affection.

Germany and Austria now so friendly, were at war only three years before the Franco-Prussian war. France and England were on the very edge of war only a few years ago over the Fashoda incident.

We ourselves were on the point of war with England in President Cleveland's time.

We have twice prepared for war with France and did actually wage naval warfare with the French republic less than 15 years after the Revolutionary war ended.

We must help the allies, of course, because that is a military necessity. But we should not allow any sentimental considerations to hurry us into bankrupting our country for a generation to come.

We must consider our own interests first—exactly as each of the belligerents is doing.

We must not forget that Japan is steadily strengthening her wealth, steadily strengthening her armies, steadily strengthening her navy, steadily strengthening her mercantile marine, steadily strengthening her illegal and menacing grip upon China.

If we are so lost to common prudence as to weaken our own resources, wealth and commercial marine beyond repair in a generation, our children may suffer at the hands of Asiatics such humiliations and cruel outrages as an invaded and conquered people always suffer.

We say plainly that there must be reasonable caution in extending to the allies the help they are clamoring for—and particularly in handing out our money.

All the allies are begging us for cash.

England wants money—in heaps—at 6 1/2 per cent., while she pays her own people 5 per cent. and demands 5 per cent. for the money she lends France, Italy, Russia and Canada and Australia.

The Italian commission is here with a request for money.

Serbia is begging for money. So is Rumania. So are Panama and Cuba. We suppose Mexico and Argentina and Brazil and Colombia will soon prefer their modest requests.

All the world seems to be headed toward our national treasury. And Mr. McAdoo ardently believes in the Scripture, which avers that the Lord loveth a cheerful giver. There is apparently no limit to his generosity with our money. Congress had hardly finished giving Mr. McAdoo the power to spend public money at his own discretion when \$200,000,000 was handed over in one lump to J. P. Morgan & Co., to pay half of the credit that arm had extended to England. We understand that the remaining \$200,000,000 will come out of our public treasury to pay off the Morgan concern's claims upon the British treasury.

Now, no matter how anxious we should be to bolster up England and the other allies, common sense tells us that there is a limit to this dispersion of our money which can be passed unless we want to bankrupt and fatally weaken our own country. We can not wage our own war and carry England and all the rest of the world upon our backs. Nor ought we to be asked to do it.

The German empire went into this war with less than one-half the wealth of England and France. Germany has managed to get along without help. France is not begging us for billions. We do not understand why England, with much more wealth and income

than either Germany or France, must be handed a scoop shovel and be told to help herself to our money.

It was only last Friday that Lloyd George and Lord Curzon told parliament that England would come out of the war with a navy larger than all the combined navies of the world and with a larger mercantile navy than she had in 1914.

It seems to us that there is something in that worth thinking about. If the result of war is to be that we will be hopelessly outclassed by England as a naval power and hopelessly beaten by England at the start in the competition for the world's trade, then it would seem to be prudent to keep enough of our own money to build up our own industries.

Spending billions to beat Germany is one thing, and spending billions to build up another nation's navy and mercantile marine to such a pitch of superiority that we will have no chance at all to compete for world trade after the war is quite another thing.

There is very little evidence that our Washington statesmen ever look ahead or plan for the future, but it might be a good idea to do so now, if for nothing else but the sake of novelty. The future will come, you know, whether we prepare for it or not.

We say again that there is no objection anywhere, so far as we know, to extending a reasonable amount of financial aid to the allies. But there should be reason in the matter.

It is very easy to say a billion—just as easy as to say a million. But a billion dollars is a huge sum of money—so huge that the mind can not really conceive it.

If the United States treasury had been in existence when Jesus was born in Bethlehem and had begun to pay out a dollar a minute and had paid out a dollar a minute, night and day, ever since, it would race paid out in this year, 1917, just a little over one-half of the two-billion-dollar sum which Mr. McAdoo is asking the nation to give him for air distribution among the allies.

If the United States treasury had begun, when Jesus was born, to pay out money at the rate of a dollar a minute, day and night, and kept at it till now, it would have paid out only something over one-half the sum that the new revenue bill proposes to take from the people of the United States, in taxes this year.

It is plain enough that the bond issue is not being eagerly taken, to say the least. The banks have gone to their limit with commendable alacrity, but the people are not buying the bonds. The government will doubtless eventually dispose of the two billion issue. But who can say as much of the next issue?

Suppose the next issue is a failure, and Mr. McAdoo has meantime gone on handing over hundreds of millions to banking concerns and foreign governments, until we are in debt two, three or five billions. What then?

Why, then, the huge deficits and running expenses will have to be met by taxation. The revenue bill that has been prepared for this year will seem like a sweet dream of pleasure when the revenue bills for next year are made up.

If we stuck strictly to our own business and paid our own war costs and relied upon ourselves, the cost of the war would be huge enough to suit the most extravagant—but the people could and would pay it willingly.

But paying every other nation's expenses is a horse of a different color. With taxation raised to a height upon which the producers and laborers can not pay and subsist in comfort, the masses will be no more content than they are now in the belligerent countries—and, if they told you the truth, you would know that England, France, Italy, Germany and Austria are all sitting on that same volcano of revolution which exploded in Russia.

Everybody is willing to pay out all he has and all he can earn, borrow or beg for America.

But huge and burdensome taxation incurred by throwing around millions and billions for other governments to scramble for will sooner or later excite universal resentment.

It is a bad policy—bad for the present and for the future, and if it be defended on the plausible ground that it is a war measure and that we can afford to finance the allies to fight for us, we reply that it will prove to be as disastrous as a war measure as it is unbefitting and mean as a sentiment.

The nation that hires others to fight for it, instead of making ready to fight—and then fighting its own war, fosters a contemptible sentiment and resorts to a fatal strategy.

From a military standpoint, our only correct strategy is to spend all our money and all our labor in preparing our navy and our armies here at their natural base, and so compelling Germany, if she wants to fight, to come to us and see how she likes the taste of our granite.

If our general staff has not yet reached the point of military intelligence where it can grasp this elemental and fundamental principle of strategy, then West Point and Annapolis must have worked upon some mighty poor material.

The prime strategic advantage of this country in warfare with a European power is not a distant offensive, against the enemy's base, but it is an offensive prepared and launched near and upon our own shores, against an enemy compelled to leave his base and assault ours.

That ought to be plain to a freshman—or even to one of the gentlemen who write military criticisms for newspapers in this and other seaports.

To throw away our strategic advantage by sending our fleets and armies away from their home bases, to be parts of a European offensive which has practically broken down, is a blundering proposal that would make a real strategist gasp, and that will cost us dear if we accede to it.

And as it is with military strategy, so it is with financial strategy. Nothing could be more unsound or more dangerous than imposing huge tax-

ation and huge bonded indebtedness upon our people and then throwing the money around among scrambling, foreign competitors, exactly like a drunken sailor throwing coppers to a lot of scrambling urchins.

Our money, like our armies and our fleets, should be concentrated at its home bases and not dispersed abroad.

As sure as anything can be sure, the financial strategy we have adopted and seem determined to pursue will prove to be unsound strategy, risky strategy—we fear disastrous strategy.

The congress should never have resigned its authority over the nation's purse. Neither Mr. McAdoo nor any other man is competent to decide, at his own sweet will and pleasure, how seven thousand millions of the American people's money shall be spent—throwing a hundred millions to this one and a hundred millions to that one and thousands of millions to the lot.

We have a striking example of the folly of entrusting such autocratic power to any man in the first proposal to lend two thousand million dollars—more than the whole year's revenue from this burdensome new taxation—to Russia—to a mere revolutionary committee, without stability or real authority—to a phantasm, a joke!

And there is reason to believe that this huge and almost unthinkable sum would have gone that way if events, which any man of sense could see were bound to come, had delayed their coming a few weeks.

If this extravagance and waste of our public money is long continued we shall meet with disaster—if not abroad, then at home.

The congress ought never to have abdicated its control of expenditures to Mr. McAdoo.

Having committed that blunder, it should repeal its action and take its rightful authority into its own hands again.

There is no necessity for any autocracy in this country. It is sticking its ugly head up in too many public offices in Washington.

The congress should take the club of the constitution and hit that ugly head every time and everywhere it shows itself.

And a splendid place to begin is in the United States treasury.

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TO KILL GUARDSMAN WAS HIS INTENTION

Man Who Shot Private Robinson of Rock Hill, Bested His Gun on a Tree.

News and Courier.

Columbia, May 21.—That the shooting of Private G. H. Robinson, the National Guardsman of the Rock Hill company of the First regiment, near a town in South Carolina, where he was on patrol duty, some days ago was a carefully conceived and premeditated act is indicated by a detailed report made to Col. P. K. McCully, Jr., commander of the First regiment.

According to Col. McCully's information, Robinson was standing on a trestle just as a freight train approached. He sought refuge on one of the small safety platforms that border trestles, and when the train was immediately on him, was fired on by a man who rested his gun on a tree some 500 yards away. Robinson saw the man fire and returned the shot just before losing consciousness. He fell to the floor of the small platform and his head was hanging over the edge when he was picked up by trainmen. He was promptly brought to Columbia, where he is resting well at a local hospital. It is thought amputation of the wounded leg will not be necessary. No arrest has yet been made.

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GRAND LODGE BUYS LIBERTY WAR BONDS

Invests \$2,500 in Government Securities—Telegraph President, Selects Columbia for Next Meeting and Elects Officers.

The State.

Union, May 22.—The grand lodge, Knights of Pythias, was called to order at 10:15 o'clock by the grand chancellor, Alva M. Lumpkin. The Rev. L. W. Blackwelder, rector of the Church of the Nativity, offered the prayer.

L. L. Wagnon, member of the local lodge, delivered the welcome address stressing the heartiness of Union's hospitality and the preparedness of the citizens, particularly the fair women, for taking care of the needs of the distinguished visitors. He emphasized the noteworthy fact of the fact that although the time of stress owing to the war conditions was greater than the world had ever known, the members of the grand lodge had assembled for the purpose of routine business and the furtherance of the interests of this worthy organization.

Grand Chancellor Lumpkin then called upon Col. O. J. Bond of Charleston to respond to the address of welcome. T. S. Col. Bond did in a splendid brief address, in which he thanked the citizens of Union for their cordial welcome. He then showed that the present great war evinced the need for just the work the Knights of Pythias undertook to do; he said this was a time for the teaching of principles of democracy and brotherhood, such as the world had not heretofore seen.

Immediately after the address of Col. Bond the convention went into secret session.

Two hundred delegates assembled at the opening of the convention, others arriving upon every train. The convention assembled in the Edison theatre, Union's beautiful new playhouse, well located and comfortable with a seating capacity of 1,600.

D. O. K. K. in High Feather.

The D. O. K. K. are everywhere in evidence and the town has been turned over to them. A number of these aforesaid knights drove down Main street seated upon a large wagon loaded with cord wood drawn by a couple of mules; one or two trembling candidates rode in the midst of the fierce looking knights. It is presumed that they were making their way to the awful sacrifice where these trembling probationers are to be ordered up. This was a sort of side issue for the Main street stunts began at noon and continued until the street parade at 6:30 p. m.

A feature of the morning session of the grand lodge, Knights of Pythias, which met here today, was the act authorizing the treasurer to purchase \$2,500 Liberty bonds. The grand lodge has funds bearing 5 per cent. interest and it cheerfully sustains the loss of 1 1/2 per cent. interest in order to give public expression of its loyalty and devotion to the American cause in the struggle for democracy and universal peace.

Chancellor's Report.

The annual report of the grand chancellor, Alva M. Lumpkin, was thoughtful and thoroughly practical and enthused the grand lodge. It was on his recommendation that the grand lodge authorize the treasurer to purchase the Liberty bonds. He recommended the operation of a home lodge with the grand lodge officials to be the officers. This lodge would enroll members of defunct lodges and keep them in good standing until they could locate permanently. Mr. Lumpkin estimated the saving in suspensions to be about 1,000 members each year under the plan. The grand lodge adopted unanimously the recommendation. He also urged the grand lodge to increase the per capita tax from 90 cents to \$1, stating that South Carolina had the lowest tax in the supreme domain. This matter was referred to the ways and means committee. The grand chancellor recommended the organization of Pythian sisters. He heartily recommended the endowment work. South Carolina Pythianism has 2,400 members, carrying \$3,000,000 in insurance. He congratulated the board of managers of The South Carolina Pythian, the official organ, for the excellence of the paper and its great worth to the order during the past year.

The grand chancellor thought of the many young Pythians who would be called to service and he recommended legislation remitting dues on all who went to the front. His closing words were forceful and full of meaning. He eulogized President Wilson and declared Americans would dedicate their lives for right and righteousness. There was great applause as the grand chancellor took his seat.

As a business proposition the ways and means committee recommended that the next session of the grand lodge be held at Columbia and their recommendation was unanimously adopted.

Assures President of Loyalty. At the afternoon session of the convention the following telegram was sent to President Wilson: "President Wilson,

"Washington, D. C.
"Grand lodge, Knights of Pythias of South Carolina, today unanimously adopted the following:
"Whereas, our beloved country is at war and whereas in this time of trouble a man must be American or anti-American,

"Be it resolved, That the members of this body proudly proclaim their Americanism and pledge for themselves and for the 10,000 loyal knights of the State they represent unfailing loyalty to the president and this country until America shall have won this war."

(Signed) "Alva M. Lumpkin,
"D. C. Heyward,
"H. C. Tillman,
"Committee."

Much disappointment was caused by the non-attendance of John J. Brown, grand chancellor, but he

was represented by Supreme Representative O'Neal of Florida, who addressed the lodge in a patriotic vein. He is a member of the board of control of the endowment rank, of which he spoke very complimentary and enthusiastically.

The grand lodge voted that the grand keeper of records and seal wire the South Carolina congressmen urging them to support all measures to prohibit the manufacture and sale of all alcoholic liquor during the war. This resolution went through with a rush.

W. E. Derrick Grand Chancellor.

The following grand lodge officers for the ensuing year were elected: Grand chancellor, W. E. Derrick of Orangeburg; grand vice chancellor, L. J. Bristow of Columbia; grand prelate, Col. O. J. Bond of Charleston; grand keeper of records and seal, C. D. Brown of Abbeville; master at arms, E. R. Cox of Darlington; master of exchequer, W. G. Harvey of Charleston; inner guard, W. A. Fewell of Rock Hill; outside guard, W. G. Olant of Beaufort. H. C. Tillman of Greenwood was elected a member of the board of publication. The grand lodge increased the per capita tax from 90 cents to \$1. The several orphanages of the State were remembered with the usual appropriations. The motion for biennial sessions was unanimously rejected.

An appropriation of \$360 was made to endow a bed for one year at the State tuberculosis camp for the use of Pythians and members of their families. To raise the money for this purpose, there was made an additional levy of 15 cents per capita to December 31. The reports of the various officers were satisfactory financially and otherwise.

A severe hailstorm passed over Union about 4:30 o'clock, caused elimination from the program of the automobile ride and also greatly hampered the Doka parade, but later these marched through Main street with about a score of tyros chained together. Owing to the rain, the convention did not take recess at 5:30 o'clock, but continued in session until the installation of the new officers.

A resolution expressing appreciation of Union's hospitality was heartily adopted. A pleasing incident of the afternoon session was an address

by J. C. Petty, the blind Pythian of whom Judge Brown once said, "He is the greatest example of joy and happiness I have ever seen." Another incident was when Grand Chancellor Lumpkin took his seat at the piano and led the whole convention in singing "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

SECOND REGIMENT SHORT OVER ONE THOUSAND MEN

Columbia, May 21.—The Second Regiment of the South Carolina National Guard lacks 1,110 men of being recruited to full war strength.

The adjutant general's office completed a telegraphic census, showing the status of the several companies at the close of enlistment offices Sunday afternoon. There are officers and 892 enlisted men enrolled. A second lieutenant is the only officer needed to bring the regiment's strength in officers up to the required number.

The showing of the coast artillery is better, comparatively, but there is still room for additional men in that branch of the service. The full complement of 19 officers is on hand, but there are only 499 men. The required number of men to put the artillery in fighting trim is 770.

PREPARE TO GROW PLENTY OF ROUGHAGE

Clemson College, May 23.—The all cotton farmer must pull fodder or buy roughage, both very expensive. Fodder pulling has a very strong hold on the small farmer and the all cotton farmer. There is not any better way to break away from this habit than to plant cowpeas and sorghum for hay. As long as the farmer makes no effort to grow hay he simply must pull fodder or buy hay. To produce hay is cheaper than either. Plant sufficient acreage in peas and sorghum to furnish sufficient roughage without the fodder. Learn to grow more hay, and soon fodder pulling will lose its charm. Certainly it is a very unpleasant undertaking during the hot days of August and September.

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Better Farming in the South TO USE FERTILIZERS MOST PROFITABLY

Fertilizers Supply One or More Plant Foods Without Which Crops Will Not Be Profitable.



J. C. PRIDDY

The ambition of every farmer is to make the largest crops possible every year, and it is his duty to make them when he can. But harvests of large crops remove large quantities of plant food from the soil. This decrease of plant food finally prevents good yields. And unless some provision is made for restoring and then maintaining production, low yields and unprofitable returns will continue to be the result. One cannot draw money from a bank unless he has friends there. Neither can the plant draw upon the soil and get the necessary food elements if the soil does not contain them.

Plan For Good Yields Every Year. Every farmer should adopt for his land a system of farming that will give him good yields continually year after year. If this is done, he must feed the plants; for plants, like animals, must feed to grow. While plants require some ten or more elements for their growth, all, except three, are supplied in abundance in most soils. The three elements not supplied abundantly are nitrogen, phosphorus and potash. All these are generally deficient in most southern soils, and, therefore, have to be supplied in some commercial form to get profitable yields.

For a farmer to get the largest acre returns from his investment in fertilizers, it is necessary for him to know something of the conditions under which fertilizers may be used most effectively. He naturally asks: "Under what conditions will fertilizers prove most profitable?"

Fertilizers are used primarily to supply one or more plant foods without which crops will not be profitable. But there are conditions other than plant foods that may influence growth. It is very necessary that good growing

conditions be provided for the plant so that the fertilizer used may enable the plant to grow most vigorously, and, therefore, bring about the biggest yields.

Vigorous Seed. The fundamental, good growing conditions making possible the most efficient use of plant foods, are good seed, a good seed bed and good cultivation.

All planting seed must have strong vitality to germinate and grow rapidly. Seed should also be of a variety adapted to local conditions. Time and rate of planting must be given attention, for either one of these may very materially effect the yield of the crop.

Good Seed Bed. Conditions required in the soil for best plant growth, and biggest acre returns from fertilizers used, are a good, well prepared, finely pulverized seed bed. It should be mellow and firm, so as to enable the roots to penetrate freely and deeply in search of food and moisture, and to allow sufficient circulation of air. It should be well drained. It should be well supplied with organic matter, which aids in absorbing and holding moisture and improves the structure and tilth of the soil. Good cultural methods must be employed so as to destroy weeds and retain soil moisture.

If the preceding conditions are satisfactory for plant growth, then, and not till then, are crops able to make the most efficient use of plant foods within their reach. If any one of these unfavorable conditions exist, a plant cannot fully utilize the foods supplied in fertilizers. Under good growing conditions fertilizers are used very profitably, proof of which is furnished by thousands of farmers all over the South. Fertilizers contain genuine plant food, and, of course, have a marked beneficial influence when applied in sufficient quantity, and the plants are otherwise given a fair chance. The question now is, Are you striving to so improve your soil conditions that you may utilize the value of fertilizer to the fullest extent?

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